

Historic Preservation Commission



2004-2006 Strategic Plan

The purpose of the Historic Preservation Program is to provide for the identification, evaluation and protection of historic and prehistoric resources within Clark County and to encourage the preservation, restoration and rehabilitation of eligible historic and/or cultural resources within the county for future generations in order to:

- A. Safeguard the heritage of Clark County as represented by those buildings, objects, sites and structures which reflect the significant elements of the county's history;
- B. Increase recognition of Clark County's historic and cultural resources;
- C. Foster a sense of identity based upon the county's history;
- D. Assist, encourage and provide incentives to property owners for preservation, restoration and use of significant buildings, objects, sites and structures; and
- E. Promote and facilitate the early identification and resolution of conflicts between preservation of historic/cultural resources and alternative land uses.¹

The Program is active in each City, rural center, and in unincorporated Clark County. Vancouver and Clark County have a consolidated program, wherein both jurisdictions participate equally. The appointed members of the Historic Preservation Commission meet monthly, at the General O.O. Howard House of Officers Row. All of the meetings are open to the public.

1. – 40.250.030 of the Clark County Code. and 17.39.010 of the Vancouver Municipal Code

The Program has a great number of routine functions not addressed specifically in this strategic plan. These functions will continue to be performed, and will be improved through the efforts outlined in the following plan. These functions include.

- 1) Maintain Clark County Heritage Register (CCHR)
- 2) Review nominations to the (CCHR)
- 3) Review nominations to the National Register of Historic Places
- 4) Special Valuation Tax Incentive Review
- 5) Current Use Tax Incentive Review
- 6) Design Review and issuance of Certificates of Appropriateness
- 7) Education for preservation of historic resources
- 8) Training of local staff and Commissioners
- 9) SEPA reviews
- 10) Inventory of historic properties
- 11) Review of projects where federal funds impact historic resources
- 12) Customer service regarding inquiries on historic preservation and local resources.
- 13) Maintain archival records for historic properties.
- 14) Special projects brought top the attention of staff and the Historic Preservation Commissioners.

The following strategic plan is divided into four categories: Goals, Projects, Training for Commissioners, and Education.

The following abbreviations will be used:

HPC -	Historic Preservation Commission
VLRP-	Vancouver Long Range Planning
VDRS -	Development Review Services
VCS -	Vancouver Cultural Services
	Including Bosco Milligan contract assistance
CC -	Clark County
DRC -	Design Review Committee (Vancouver)

Completed projects are shown in strikethrough text.

GOALS

These goals are implemented by action items in the following tables

Goals	Year	Lead
1) Complete Historic Inventory of entire County: a) Esther Short b) Portion of Hough Neighborhood c) Next area	2004 2005 2006	VLRP
2) Increase the number of properties and district listed on the Clark County Heritage Register and the National Register of Historic Places. a) minimum three new listings each year	Each year	CC VDRS
3) Attain greater efficiency at meetings and on projects a) Add times to agendas b) Self-Policing c) Limit special projects d) Work with individual Commissioners or small groups when needed	2005 each year each year each year	CC HPC
4) Continue Education of Contractors	2004-2006	CC

PROJECTS

Projects	Year	Lead
1. Explore opportunities to provide small grants a) Explore with local foundations, and with Clark County b) Draft scope of work for project development	2004-2006	CC HPC
2. Municipal code revisions (first within Vancouver) a) Formalize HPC approval for alterations and demolitions of Nationally Registered properties. b) Clarify roles in the establishment of historic districts c) Pursue same revisions in other cities	2005 2006 post 2006	VDRS CC HPC
3) Develop Plaques for Historic Properties	2004	CC
4) Registered property descriptions and photos on Web	2004-2005	CC

TRAINING FOR COMMISSIONERS

These trainings are all open to the public, and are also intended to help with the professional development of staff.

Training Topics	Year	Lead
1) Applying Secretary of Interior Standards	2004	CC VCS
2) Design Reviews	2004	VCS
3) National Trust Conference	2005	VCS
4) Generalized training from SHPO staff	2006	VCS CC
5) Using the Historic Building Code	2006	CC

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Education and Outreach	Year	Lead
1) National Trust Conference a) Promote Conference b) Explore possibilities of a mini-scholarship program c) Develop Vancouver Field session	2005	CC VCS
2) Old House Fair a) Coordinate Annual Event b) Vintage Swap Meet c) Include tours	2004 2005 2006	VCS CC HPC
3) Op-Ed Pieces in Local Newspapers a) Julie Spring b) Greg Summer c) Rob Autumn d) Mike Winter	2004 2005 2006	HPC
4) Have HPC involvement in Community Pride Design Awards	2004 2005 2006	CC HPC
5) Introduction and orientation of historic property owners	2005	CC
6) Booth at Home and Garden Show a) prep late 2005 for 2006 booth	2005 - 2006	CC VCS
7) Cultivation of New Nominations a) focus on one new site every three months, starting in April 2005. b) selected by HPC	2005 2006	HPC CC